

We claim:

Claim 1. A mask support for continuous positive airway pressure comprising:

a circumferential band extending from the forehead of a patient to below the
inion protrusion of the occipital bone;

a medial band operably connected to the circumferential band at the forehead and
at the inion protrusion of the occipital bone and passing over the
approximate medial line of the patient's head

a biasing means support positioned on the medial band at a point from the apex of
the skull to about the high forehead and comprising at least two receiving
slots;

a biasing means comprising a continuous length of rigid material formed into a
loop with two lateral arms of equal size, the ends of the arms being
inserted into the receiving slots of the biasing means support and the
lateral arms extending horizontally to a point forward to the face and at
that point curved downward to form descending arms at an approximately
90° angle with the vertical plane of the patient's face, the descending arms
of a length to form a loop to encircle a face mask.

Claim 2. The mask support of claim 1 wherein the biasing means comprises spring
steel.

Claim 3. The mask support of claim 1 wherein the receiving slots of the biasing means
support comprise means for adjusting the horizontal length of the biasing means.

Claim 4. The mask support of claim 1 which comprises means for adjustment of the
length of the circumferential band.

Claim 5. The mask support of claim 1 which comprises means for adjustment of the

length of the medial band.

Claim 6. The mask support of claim 1 wherein the circumferential and medial bands are formed from a single piece of material.

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Claim 7. The mask support of claim 1 wherein the medial band is bifurcated and each arm of the medial band is connected to the circumferential band at each side of the medial line.

Claim 8. A mask support for continuous positive airway pressure comprising:

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a circumferential band comprising an elastic material, said band extending from the forehead of a patient to below the inion protrusion of the occipital bone;

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a medial band comprising an elastic material operably connected to the circumferential band at the forehead and at the inion protrusion of the occipital bone and passing over the approximate medial line of the patient's head

a biasing means support positioned on the medial band at a point from the apex of the skull to about the high forehead and comprising two receiving slots;

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a biasing means comprising a continuous length of rigid material formed into a loop with two lateral arms of equal size, the ends of the arms being inserted into the receiving slots of the biasing means support and the lateral arms extending horizontally to a point forward to the face and at that point curved downward to form descending arms at an approximately 90° angle with the vertical plane of the patient's face, the descending arms of a length to form a loop to encircle the distal end of a face mask.

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Claim 9. A mask support for continuous positive airway pressure comprising:

a hemispheric cap, the circumferential edge of which extends from the forehead of a patient to below the inion protrusion of the occipital bone;

a medial band operably connected to the circumferential edge of the cap at the forehead and at the inion protrusion of the occipital bone and passing over the approximate medial line of the patient's head;

a biasing means support positioned on the medial band at a point from the apex of the skull to about the upper forehead and comprising at least one receiving slot;

a biasing means comprising a continuous length of rigid material formed into a loop with two lateral arms of equal size, the ends of the arms being inserted into the receiving slots of the biasing means support and the lateral arms extending horizontally and at that point forming an approximately 90° angle with the vertical plane of the patient's face, to form descending arms of a length to encircle the distal end of a face mask.

Claim 10. The mask support of claims 1, 8 or 9 wherein one lateral descending arm of the biasing means is inserted into a receiving means on the other lateral descending arm above the position of the face mask.

Claim 11. The mask support of claims 1, 8 or 9 wherein the biasing means comprises at least one length of spring steel which connect individually or in combination with a face mask.

Claim 12. The mask support of claims 1, 6 or 8 wherein the biasing means comprises angular adjustments means for a face mask in the region approximately from where the descending arm or arms connect to or form a loop around the face mask to the highest point at which a face mask may be positioned relative to the descending arm or arms.

Claim 13. A mask support wherein the circumferential and medial bands create a stable platform for the biasing means support by encircling the head so as to clamp the support to the head with force vectors created at the undercut region of the forehead and the undercut region of the inion protrusion and the resultant radially oriented force vecotrs are established at the region

where the circumferential band contacts the head, wherein the mask support is stabilized to resist lateral vector forces.

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